

THE DISTILLERY

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Naïve human stem cell medium for maintenance of human induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cells in a naïve state	<i>In vitro</i> studies identified culture conditions to maintain human iPS cells in a naïve state. Culture of primed human iPS cells, embryonic stem cells (ESCs) or blastocyst-derived cells in naïve human stem cell medium generated pluripotent stem cells with features of naïve mouse iPS cells including a preinactivation X chromosome state, upregulation of pluripotency genes and downregulation of lineage commitment genes, and it produced decreases in DNA methylation compared with culture of primed human iPS cells alone. Mouse embryos injected with human naïve iPS cells and grown in female mice showed chimerism and incorporation of the human cells during organogenesis. Next steps include assessing properties of cells derived from naïve iPS cells. <i>SciBX</i> 6(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1305 Published online Nov. 21, 2013	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Gafni, O. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online Oct. 30, 2013; doi:10.1038/nature12745 Contact: Jacob H. Hanna, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel e-mail: jacob.hanna@weizmann.ac.il Contact: Noa Novershtern, same affiliation as above e-mail: noa.novershtern@weizmann.ac.il Contact: Rada Massarwa, same affiliation as above e-mail: rada.massarwa@weizmann.ac.il